Complaints against subsidiary of NTC in Gujarat

662. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received serious complaints from Members of Parliament and other quarters about the malfunctioning of the NTC subsidiary in the Gujarat; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the then General Manager of Jupiter Mills of NTC was found guilty for some irregularities in the purchase of coal worth Rs. 80 lakhs and was just punished by issuance of a warning and whether Government have decided to reconsider this warning and enhance the punishment.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Irregularities regarding the violation of guidlines in the transportation of coal by road and procurement of coal in Jupiter Mills was investigated. After departmental proceedings, the minor penalty of censure was imposed on the General Manager and three others.

Government have received serious complaints which cover, *inter alia*, the irregular deposit of Rs. 75 lakhs and irregularities in sales and purchases.

The Government policy is to award punishment commensurate with the proven guilt.

Export of cotton

663. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the major handicaps for cotton exports being faced by Government this year in the world market; and

(b) whether in view of the good cotton crop and availability of surplus cotton in the country to the tune of 20 lakh bales what is the new device being worked out by Government for more cotton exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) The exporting agencies have been experiencing difficulty in export of cotton due to easy supply position of cotton in the World Market, during the current cotton year. There is stiff competition from China, Pakistan, Australia, U.S.A., and West Africa in export of cotton.

(b) Government of India have released 10,77,000 bales of cotton for export during the current cotton seasons and unlike in past, export Quota has also been released in favour of Private trade. With a view to increasing export of cotton, Government of India have done away with the condition of minimum export prices for export of cotton. Government of India have announced liberalised long term policy for export of cotton yarn.

Restructuring of NTC and its subsidiaries

664. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any suggestions for restructuring management of NTC and its subsidiaries at vertical and horizontal levels; and

(b) whether a suggestion for separating the post of Chairman and Managing Director at Central and Subsidiary levels have been accepted; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Suggestions regarding the organisational structure and better management of NTC are received from time to time.

(b) There are separate posts of hairman and Managing Director in he NTC (Holding Company). It is not proposed to change the existing pattern of full time Chairman-cum-Managing Directors in the subsidiary corporation of the NTC at present on grounds of administrative efficiency.

Sub-committee for drafting amendments to the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act

665. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a Sub-Committee to draft amendments to the present Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act; and

(b) if so, what progress has so far been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Labour had formed a Working Group consisting of Labour Secretaries of Bihar, West Bengal, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, Chief LabourCommissioner (Central) under the convenorship of Director General (Labour Welfare) to look into various proposals for amendments to the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. The Working Group submitted its report in July, 1982 suggesting certain amendments to the Act. These recommendations were placed before the Labour Ministers' Conference held in September, 1982. The batch of amendments is still to be finalised.

Turnover of the mills under the Cotton Corporation of India

666. SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the annual turnover of the mills under the Cotton Corporation of India during the year 1985-86 and the expected turnover during the year 1986-87;

(b) whether any losses were sustained by the Corporation; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the performance of the mills under the Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India does not have any mills under its control.

(b) The Cotton Corporation of India suffered losses during the past few years on account of heavy interest burden on the past borrowings from the Banks/Government, which the Corporation had to undertake in order to make large purchases during the years of comfortable cotton supply position and on account of carrying costs of the stocks.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Exports by STC

667. SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has drawn up any scheme for increasing exports through its agency for the year 1986-87; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The corporation has set up a target of Rs. 554 crores for exports in 1986-87. The target includes Rs. 159 crores for canalised exports, Rs. 385 crores for non canalised exports and Rs. 10 crores for off-shore trading.